

Town of Lunenburg

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
P.O. Box 135
Lunenburg, MA 01462-0135



James Lattanzi, Chairman
Garrett Stillman, Vice-Chairman
Jeffrey Mendoza, Clerk
Douglas MacMillan, Member
Renee Trakimas, Member

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION **August 22, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

The third meeting of the Lunenburg Agricultural Commission convened inside the Ritter Memorial Building. Member Rene Trakimas was not present. All other members were present. The meeting was also attended by the Planning Board liaison Matt Allison.

General discussion followed reading and approval of minutes from the July 18th meeting. Obtaining a hard copy of the Right to Farm By-law draft for discussion at the next meeting was stated as a priority.

The members who attended the open house workshop at Carter Stevens Farm in Barre, MA the previous week summarized their outing. Topics included current APR regulations and the Farm Bureau's position as well as pending government production cost surveys and an update on UMASS Extension School's current educational direction.

Further discussion of the Right to Farm By-Law followed. Reconciling the discrepancy between the state and local acreage requirement was discussed, with a general consensus that no acreage requirement would be preferable. Finalizing the draft to present to the Open Space and Conservation committees was stated as a priority, with scheduling and informational meeting open to the public to follow.

The role and responsibilities of committee liaisons was discussed and clarified, with the suggestion of obtaining a liaison form the Conservation Commission.

Community outreach was considered as a central mission for the Agricultural Commission. 4H and the former Lunenburg Grange were discussed. As the Grange funding went to the teen center, the possibility of utilizing the Mossman Building for 4H activities and the encouragement of agricultural and economic opportunities was suggested. Inviting presenters to hold forums to discuss available grants was discussed. Obtaining MDAR mailing lists was stated as a goal. The need to activate and simplify access to the AGCOM website was discussed.

Performance of the recent Farmer's Markets was discussed. Topics included nearby and surrounding communities AGCOM and market relationships and the development of application paperwork for vendors in keeping with surrounding communities' markets.

The meeting was opened to the public with a discussion focused mainly on town land lease term arrangements, business plan and soil management requirements, and ensuring farm equipment access. The consideration and impact of designating Northfield Road and Flat Hill Road as Scenic Roads was forwarded by the Planning Board liaison.

The fourth meeting was scheduled for September 19, 2013 at 7:00 pm at The Ritter Building and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeffrey L. Mendoza